IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Keiji KATO et al.

Appl. No.: New Group: Unknown

Filed: September 25, 2003 Examiner: Unknown

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

September 25, 2003

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes:

Amendments to the Specification;

Claim Set as Amended; and

Remarks.

The amendments presented herein comply with the "Revised Amendment Format" as set forth in the Official Gazette Notice dated February 25, 2003. In accordance with the Notice, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)-(d) are waived.